

Case 2694

***Exoprosopa* Macquart, 1840 (Insecta, Diptera): proposed confirmation of *Anthrax pandora* Fabricius, 1805 as the type species**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is the confirmation of *Anthrax pandora* Fabricius, 1805 as the type species of the bombyliid fly genus *Exoprosopa* Macquart, 1840. This is in accordance with general usage; an overlooked designation of *E. audouinii* Macquart, 1840 would disturb the meanings of *Exoprosopa* and *Ligyra* Newman, 1841.

1. *Exoprosopa* Macquart, 1840 (p. 35) was originally established for 41 nominal species, some of which are now placed in other genera of the family BOMBYLIIDAE, commonly known as bee flies. *Exoprosopa* is a genus whose immatures are parasitoids of other holometabolous insects, primarily Hymenoptera [see DuMerle (1975) for an exhaustive list of hosts]. The concept of this genus has been primarily restricted to those anthracine bombyliid species with a subbasal tooth on the tarsal claw and the presence of three submarginal cells in the wing. The first type species designation in accordance with this usage was by Coquillett (1910, p. 544) of *Anthrax pandora* Fabricius, 1805.

2. Although recently many species of *Exoprosopa* have been removed to other genera (Bowden, 1975, 1980), there still remain over 400 species in this cosmopolitan genus, which is the type genus for the bombyliid subfamily EXOPROSOPINAE Becker, 1913 (considered by some as a tribe within the subfamily ANTHRACINAE). The genus has been in common usage since its original description and its concept following Coquillett's type species designation has been widely accepted. A list of 18 representative references is held by the Commission Secretariat.

3. An earlier designation by Duponchel (1845, p. 545), one that had been previously overlooked, gave *Exoprosopa audouinii* Macquart, 1840, the first species listed under *Exoprosopa* by Macquart (1840), as the type species. *Exoprosopa audouinii* is considered a typical member of the pantropical genus *Ligyra* Newman, 1841 (e.g., Bowden, 1975b; Evenhuis, 1989). Acceptance of Duponchel's designation would place *Exoprosopa* as a senior subjective synonym of *Ligyra* and result in about 100 new combinations. *Litorhynchus* Macquart, 1840, a little-known generic name with a taxonomically confusing history (see Bowden, 1975a), would be the next available name for

those species previously placed in *Exoprosopa* sensu Coquillett, and such usage would result in hundreds of new combinations.

4. As *Exoprosopa* Macquart, 1840 has been the name consistently used for species in this widely distributed genus since its original description, and its concept sensu Coquillett (1910) is widely accepted, we consider that the general current usage should be maintained.

5. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all type species designations for *Exoprosopa* Macquart, 1840 before that by Coquillett (1910) of *Anthrax pandora* Fabricius, 1805;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the name *Exoprosopa* Macquart, 1840 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Coquillett (1910) *Anthrax pandora* Fabricius, 1805;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *pandora* Fabricius, 1805, as published in the binomen *Anthrax pandora* (specific name of the type species of *Exoprosopa* Macquart, 1840).

References

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